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[OMB Control No. 2900-0768]

Agency Information Collection Activity under OMB Review: Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers Improvements and Amendments Under the VA MISSION Act of 2018

AGENCY: Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that the Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, will submit the collection of information abstracted below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden and it includes the actual data collection instrument.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review - Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function. Refer to "OMB Control No. 2900–0768.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Maribel Aponte, Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics (008), 1717 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20006, (202) 266-4688 or email maribel.aponte@va.gov. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900–0768" in any correspondence.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3501-21.

<u>Title</u>: Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers Improvements and Amendments Under the VA MISSION Act of 2018, VA Form 10-10CG.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0768.

<u>Type of Review</u>: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Abstract: Pursuant to RIN 2900-AQ48, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has proposed revisions to its regulations that govern VA's Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC). This rulemaking would make improvements to PCAFC and update the regulations to comply with section 161 of Public Law 115-182, the John S. McCain III, Daniel K. Akaka, and Samuel R. Johnson VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks (MISSION) Act of 2018, or the VA MISSION Act of 2018, which made changes to PCAFC's authorizing statute. These proposed changes would allow PCAFC to better address the needs of veterans of all eras and standardize the current program to focus on eligible veterans with moderate and severe needs.

This proposed rule —

- Would expand PCAFC to eligible veterans of all service eras, as specified.
- Would define new terms and revise existing terms used throughout the regulation.
 Some of the new and revised terms would have a substantial impact on eligibility requirements for PCAFC (e.g., in need of personal care services; need for supervision, protection, or instruction; and serious injury), and the benefits available under PCAFC (e.g., financial planning services, legal services, and monthly stipend rate).
- Would establish an annual reassessment to determine continued eligibility for PCAFC.
 - Would revise the stipend payment calculation for Primary Family Caregivers.
 - □ Would establish a transition plan for legacy participants and legacy applicants

who may or may not meet the new eligibility criteria and whose Primary Family

Caregivers could have their stipend amount impacted by changes to the stipend

payment calculation.

- □ Would add financial planning and legal services as new benefits available to Primary Family Caregivers.
 - Would revise the process for revocation and discharge from PCAFC.
 - Would reference VA's ability to collect overpayments made under PCAFC.

The background for PCAFC and this information collection resides in Title I of Public Law (Pub. L.) 111-163, Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act of 2010 (hereinafter referred to as "the Caregivers Act"), which established section 1720G(a) of title 38 of the United States Code (U.S.C.) "Assistance and Support Services for Caregivers." Section 1720G required VA to establish a Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) of eligible veterans. The Caregivers Act also required VA to establish a Program of General Caregiver Support Services (PGCSS) that is available to caregivers of covered veterans of all eras. VA implemented the PCAFC and the PGCSS through its regulations in part 71 of title 38 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Through PCAFC, VA provides family caregivers of eligible veterans (as defined in 38 CFR 71.15) certain benefits, such as training, respite care. counseling, technical support, beneficiary travel (to attend required caregiver training and for an eligible veteran's medical appointments), a monthly stipend payment, and access to health care coverage (if qualified) through the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA). 38 U.S.C. 1720G(a)(3), 38 CFR 71.40. In order to administer these benefits to caregivers, it is necessary that the VA receive information about the nature of benefit being sought and the persons who will be serving as primary or secondary family caregivers and receiving benefits. This information is collected with VA Form 10-10CG, which is currently approved under

Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control Number 2900-0768. Additional information will be collected by VA when a participating veteran provides required notice of a change of address and will be added to OMB Control Number 2900-0768.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The *Federal Register* Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published at 85 FR 136 on July 15, 2020, pages 42983 and 42984.

VA Form 10-10CG:

Affected Public: Individuals and households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 15,694 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 15 minutes.

Frequency of Response: Once annually.

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 62,776.

Veteran Change of Address Notification:

Affected Public: Individuals and households.

Estimated Annual Burden: 542 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 10 minutes.

<u>Frequency of Response</u>: On occasion.

Estimated Annual Number of Respondents: 3,250.

By direction of the Secretary:

Maribel Aponte,

VA PRA Clearance Officer,

Office of Enterprise and Integration, Data Governance Analytics,

Department of Veterans Affairs.

BILLING CODE 8320-01-P

[FR Doc. 2021-04012 Filed: 2/25/2021 8:45 am; Publication Date: 2/26/2021]